

18 April 1951

The Honorable Brien McMahon
Chairman
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in reference to my letter to you of February 1, 1951, in which the Central Intelligence Agency undertook the responsibility of preparing an estimate on Soviet capabilities to counter the delivery of United States atomic weapons. I am distressed by the delay which has occurred in informing you finally on this matter. However, as you will note from the attached letter of the Secretary of Defense, dated 17 April 1951, both this delay and our inability to produce the estimate you requested are due to circumstances beyond the control of this agency.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

5/
Walter B. Smith
Director

Enclosure

O/DCI LEM:mlk

WBS:c

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